

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 56th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN MATT BRAINARD**, on January 28, 1999 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 420 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Matt Brainard, Chairman (R)
Rep. Toni Hagener, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Darrel Adams (R)
Rep. Joan Andersen (R)
Rep. Edith Clark (R)
Rep. Tom Dell (D)
Rep. George Golie (D)
Rep. Donald L. Hedges (R)
Rep. Jeff Mangan (D)
Rep. Douglas Mood (R)
Rep. Brennan Ryan (D)
Rep. Frank Smith (D)
Rep. Bill Tash (R)
Rep. Bill Thomas (R)
Rep. Doug Wagner (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Allan Walters, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Monica Lindeen (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Sheri Heffelfinger, Legislative Branch
Karen Mills, Committee Secretary

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s): HB 334, 335, 342 1/29/1999
Executive Action: None
Dates Posted: 1/19/1999

HEARING ON HB 334**Opening Statement by Sponsor: REP. JOE QUILICI**

He stated that this bill would revise the funding for the Office of the Consumer Counsel for the Department of Public Service Regulation and to conform to Article VIll, Section 17 of the Montana Constitution. He further stated that this would allow them to better conform with CI-75. It would freeze the % rate it takes to fund the Consumer Counsel and the Dept. of Public Service Regulation.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 1.5 - 5.6}

Proponents' Testimony:

DAVE FISHER, Chairman of Public Service Commission

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 5.7 - 6.1}

MIKE STRAND, Ex. V. P. Mt. Telecom Comm.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 6.3 - 7}

ED BARTLETT, Mt. Power Co.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 7 - 7.2}

BARBARA RANF, U.S. West Comm.

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 7.3 - 7.6}

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 8 - 10}

Closing from Sponsor: REP. JOE QUILICI

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 10.1 - 10.4}

HEARING ON HB 335**Opening Statement by Sponsor: REP. STEVE VICK**

This is a bill eliminating the Montana Arts Council and the Cultural and Aesthetic Projects Advisory Committee; revising the composition of the Capitol Complex Advisory Council and the American Indian Monument and Tribal Flag Circle Advisory Committee; transferring certain duties of the Montana Arts Council to the Montana Historical Society; allocating funds for cultural and aesthetic education. Rep. Vick further asked the question "What are the essential functions that government should

be responsible for doing"? Pursuit of life, liberty and happiness. Lending a helping hand to those disadvantaged. He feels government should not have to pay for the arts. Quoted Mencken: "Doesn't recall a single writer needing government help".

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 11.1 - 19.6}

Proponents' Testimony:

PAUL MONACO, Artist from Gallatin-Gateway

{Tape : 1; Side : A; Approx. Time Counter : 20 - 31}

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : .1 - 1.1}

Bobby Lietz, Education Degree.

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 1.4 - 2.4}

Opponents' Testimony:

DAVE MIHELIC, Governor's Office, Montana Arts Council

EXHIBIT(sth22a01)

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 3.2 - 5}

JUDY ERICSON, Endowment Trust Advisory Panel

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 5.2 - 10.6}

RICK HALMES, Rep., Mt. Arts Council, Billings

EXHIBIT(sth22a02)**EXHIBIT**(sth22a03)**EXHIBIT**(sth22a04)**EXHIBIT**(sth22a05)

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 11 - 22.7}

MARTIN HOLT, Member of Mt. Arts Council

{Tape : 1; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 23.7 - 34}

BETTY WADDELL, Mt. Assoc. of Churches **EXHIBIT**(sth22a06)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 0.1 - 4.9}

LEE ROSTAD, Representing the rural people of the state.**EXHIBIT**(sth22a07)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 5.3 - 9.3}

PAUL STAHL, Chr. of Mt Cultural Advocacy **EXHIBIT**(sth22a08)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 9.6 - 14.9}

JOE LAMSON, Rep. of Nancy Keenan, Dir. of OPI **EXHIBIT**(sth22a09)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 15.1 - 18}

MARK SHEROUSE, Informational Testimony **EXHIBIT**(sth22a10)

{Tape : 2; Side : B; Approx. Time Counter : 18.7 - 23.4}

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape : 2; Side :B; Approx. Time Counter : 23.6 - 40}

Closing by Sponsor: REP. STEVE VICK

{Tape : 2; Side :B; Approx. Time Counter : 42 - 43}

HEARING ON HB 342

Opening Statement by Sponsor: REP. BOB RANEY

A bill authorizing public officers and public employees to use public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, or funds to inform the public about a new tax or tax increase.

{Tape :3; Side :A; Approx. Time Counter : 0.1 - 1.5}

Proponents' Testimony:

COLLEEN GRAHAM, Staff Attorney at Mt. School Boards Assoc.

{Tape :3; Side :A; Approx. Time Counter : 1.6 - 2.6}

JOE KERWIN, Dept. Sec. of Committee for Elections

{Tape :3; Side :A; Approx. Time Counter : 2.7 - 3.9}

PHIL CAMPBELL, MEA

Tape :3; Side :A; Approx. Time Counter : 4 - 5.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape :3; Side :A; Approx. Time Counter : 5.4 - 13.5}

Closing by Sponsor: REP. BOB RANEY

Tape :3; Side A; Approx. Time Counter : 13.8 - 14.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:23 A.M.

REP. MATT BRAINARD, Chairman

KAREN MILLS, Secretary

MB/KM

EXHIBIT (sth22aad)